#### SAYLOR COMPANY

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS COUNSEL

February 3, 2010

Honorable Richard Lugar United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations 446 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

The Government of South Ossetia has retained Saylor Company to assist it with making its voice heard in the geopolitical debate that surrounds South Ossetia and its people. It is in that capacity that I transmit to you the attached petition. I include Russian version, which carries the signatures, and an English translation.

Signed by 340 survivors and families who lost loved ones in the 2008 war, illegally started by Georgia President Saakashvili, the petition asks the United States and NATO to refrain from supplying additional military assistance to Georgia and requests hearings by the appropriate committees in Congress examine the potential impact of further military aid to Georgia. It also requests that the hearings determine if monies already transferred to Georgia for humanitarian aid purposes have been properly used and accounted for.

Senator, I hope you and your colleagues give this petition sincere consideration and understand that the citizens of South Ossetia very much want you to hear their voices as decisions about their fates are made in the United States Congress and elsewhere.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or have somebody on your staff do so at 202-715-1448 or at <a href="mailto:staylorcompany.com">staff do so at 202-715-1448</a> or at <a href="mailto:staylorcompany.com">staylorcompany.com</a>

Respectfully,

Steven Ellis Principal

Cc:

Senator John Kerry Marik String

President Barack Obama Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

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#### PETITION BY CITIZENS OF SOUTH OSSETIA AGAINST RE-ARMING OF GEORGIA BY THE UNITED STATES AND NATO

WHEREAS United States Senator Richard Lugar has released a study that calls for the United States of America (USA) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to re-arm Georgia's military after it was destroyed in the wake of its illegal invasion of Ossetia in August of 2008; and

WHEREAS Georgia's president, Mikheil Saakashvili, has already used military weapons and training supplied to his country by the USA and other nations to conduct illegal aggression against the civilian population of South Ossetia, including the August 2008 attack in which hundreds were killed or injured and thousands were left homeless and during which hospitals, schools, roads, private homes, and other critical infrastructure in South Ossetia were destroyed, as validated by a report of the Independent International Fact Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia; and

WHEREAS the citizens of South Ossetia fear that President Saakashvili, in light of his past recklessness and erratic behavior, will again use <u>any</u> military weapons and training against us; and

WEREAS the citizens of South Ossetia are working to build a free and independent country secure from attack by its neighbors so that we can develop a nation that is a productive, peaceful, and responsible member of the international community;

THEREFORE, the undersigned citizens of South Ossetia, who are survivors of Georgia's illegal attack on South Ossetia in August of 2008 or who are relatives of those killed or injured in the attack by weapons and as result of training supplied by the USA and other countries, hereby request that the Government of the United States of America refrain from supplying additional military assistance to Georgia. We are convinced that providing President Saakashvili with further military hardware and training will increase the likelihood of conflict in this region rather than to promote peace and will, in reality, place the lives of South Ossetian citizens in jeopardy.

FURTHER, we respectfully request that the appropriate committees of the United States Congress conduct thorough and objective hearings on how previous military weapons and training supplied by the USA were used by President Saakashvill to launch an illegal attack on the civilians of South Ossetia and to consider the potential impacts of additional military support as well as investigate whether the \$1 billion in aid distributed to Georgia since the war has reached the true victims of the fighting or has been misappropriated to benefit the Georgian government and its supporters.

## Петиция граждан Южной Осетии против перевооружения Грузии США и НАТО.

ПРИНИМАЯ ВО ВНИМАНИЕ то, что Сенатор США Ричард Лугар издал свое исследование, которое призывает Соединенные Штаты Америки (США) и Североатлантический Альянс (НАТО) к перевооружению вооруженных сил Грузии после того, как они были разрушены в результате незаконного военного вторжения в Южной Осетию в августе 2008 года;

**ПРИНИЧП** ВНИМАНИЕ то, что президент Грузии, Михаил BO -Саакацівили, уже использовал оружие военную И предоставленную его стране США и другими государствами, для совершения незаконной агрессии против гражданского населения Южной Осетии, включая нападение в августе 2008, в котором сотни были убиты или ранены, а тысячи людей остались без крова и во время которой больницы, школы, частные дома, дороги и другая важная инфраструктура были разрушены, как было подтверждено докладом независимой Международной Миссии по расследованию фактов Конфликта в Грузии;

ПРИНИМАЯ ВО ВНИМАНИЕ то, что граждане Южной Осетии боятся того, что Президент Саакашвили, в свете своего недавнего безрассудства и непредсказуемого поведения, снова применит <u>любое</u> оружие и военную подготовку против нас;

ПРИНИМАЯ ВО ВНИМАНИЕ то, что граждане Южной Осетии работают над построением свободного и независимого государства, которое является продуктивным, мирным и ответственным членом международного сообщества, усилие, которому мешало продолжительная угроза нападения со стороны Грузии;

СЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬНО, нижеподписавшимися гражданами Южной Осетии являются те, которые выжили от незаконного нападения Грузии на Южную Осетию в августе 2008 года или родственники тех, которые были убиты или время нападения, оружием И военной подготовкой. предоставленными США и другими странами, настоящим просим, чтобы Правительство США воздержалось от предоставления дополнительной военной помощи Грузии. Мы убеждены В TOM. 410 предоставление Президенту Саакашвили военной техники и военной подготовки приведет к повышению вероятности конфликта в этом регионе, нежели к продвижению мира и, на самом деле, подвергнет жизни граждан Южной Осетии опасности.

ТАКЖЕ, мы просим, чтобы соответствующие комитеты Конгресса Соединенных Штатов провели тщательное и объективное разбирательство того, как предыдущие оружие и военная подготовка, предоставленные США,

были использованы Президентом Саакашвили, для начала незаконной агрессии против граждан Южной Осетии и рассмотрели возможный эффект дополнительной военной помощи, а также расследовали, действительно ли 1 миллиард долларов помощи, выделенные Грузии после войны, были потрачены на настоящих жертв войны или были незаконно использованы грузинским правительством и ее союзниками.

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